



1 doc 1

29

PATENT APPLICATION

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

OCT 22 2001

RECEIVED

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Dolores J. SCHENDEL

Group Art Unit: 1644

Serial No. 08/881,509

Examiner: A. DeCloux

Filed: June 24, 1997

Atty. Dkt No. 100564-07015

For: T CELLS SPECIFIC FOR KIDNEY CARCINOMA

**SUBMISSION OF VERIFIED TRANSLATION OF
FOREIGN PRIORITY DOCUMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

October 18, 2001

Sir:

Further to Applicant's Continued Prosecution Application, filed October 10, 2001, Applicants respectfully submit the enclosed verified English-language translation of foreign priority document. Applicants respectfully assert that a claim to foreign priority has been perfected. In the event that any fees are due with respect to this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert K. Carpenter
Registration No. 34,794

ARENT FOX KINTNER PLOTKIN & KAHN, PLLC
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.,
Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Tel: (202) 857-6000
Fax: (202) 638-4810



DECLARATION

RECEIVED

OCT 22 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

I, Sabine Frieda Katharina Town, declare that I am a citizen of the Federal Republic of Germany, residing at Waldstraße 45, 82386 Oberhausen, Federal Republic of Germany, that I am fluent in German and English, that I am a competent translator from German into English and that the attached is a true and accurate translation made by me into the English language of Federal Republic of Germany Application No. 196 25 191.5 filed on 24.06.1996.

I further declare that all statements made herein of my knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that wilful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such wilful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing declaration, this fifth day of October 2001.

Sabine F.K. Town

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

RECEIVED

OCT 22 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Certificate

The Boehringer Mannheim GmbH in Mannheim/Germany has on the 24th June 1996 filed an application for a patent with the German Patent Office entitled

"T cells specific for kidney carcinoma"

The attached documents are a correct and accurate reproduction of the original documents of this patent application.

The application received the provisional International Patent Classification symbols C 12 N, C 07 K and A 61 K in the German Patent Office.

Munich, 14th May 1997

The President of the German Patent Office

By order of

Nietiedt

File number: 196 25 191.5

RECEIVED

OCT 22 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900



Boehringer Mannheim GmbH
Sandhofer Str. 112-132

68305 Mannheim-Waldhof

T cells specific for kidney carcinoma

T cells specific for kidney carcinoma

Description

The present invention concerns new nucleic acid and amino acid sequences of the human T cell receptor and their use for the diagnosis and therapy of carcinomas in particular of kidney cell carcinomas.

The T lymphocytes of the immune system are responsible for the cellular immune response. They are able to recognize and eliminate diseased body cells, e.g. cells which contain foreign proteins, or tumour cells. Diseased body cells are recognized by the so-called T cell receptor (TCR) which binds an antigen in the form of short peptide fragments which is specific for the diseased cell. These peptide fragments are presented by MHC molecules on the cell surface.

T cell receptors are composed of two different polypeptide subunits, usually the so-called T cell receptor α or β chains which are linked together by a disulfide bridge. The α and β chains are in turn composed of variable and constant regions. The variable regions of the α chain comprise V and J gene segments and the variable regions of the β chain comprise V, D and J gene segments.

The TCR α chain gene is composed of over 100 variable segments each of which contains an exon for a V region in front of which there is another exon which codes for a leader sequence which enables transport of the protein to the cell surface. A group of 61 J segments lies at a

considerable distance from the V segments. The J segments are followed by a single C segment for the constant region which in turn contains separate exons for the constant region and the hinge region as well as an exon for the transmembrane and cytoplasm regions.

The TCR β chain gene contains a group of approximately 30 V gene segments which are at some distance from 2 separate clusters which each contain a single D segment and 6 or 7 J segments as well as a single C segment. Each constant segment of the β chain has separate exons for the constant, the hinge, the transmembrane and the cytoplasm region.

During the development of the T cell the separate segments are linked by somatic recombination. In the case of the α chain a $V\alpha$ gene segment gets next to a $J\alpha$ gene segment and hence a functional exon is formed. Transcription and splicing of the $VJ\alpha$ exon to the constant region leads to the formation of the mRNA which is translated into the TCR α chain. The rearrangement of the $V\beta$, $D\beta$ and $J\beta$ gene segments coding for the variable domain of the β chain creates a functional exon which is transcribed and attached to $C\beta$ by splicing. The mRNA which forms is translated into the TCR β chain. The α and β chains join together after their biosynthesis to form an $\alpha : \beta$ TCR heterodimer. The highly variable region of the TCR which is responsible for the specificity of antigen recognition and is located in the linkage region of the V, (D) and J gene segments is referred to as the CDR3 region.

Due to the high variability of T cell receptors it is very time-consuming to identify specific nucleotide and

amino acid sequences in particular in the area of the CDR3 antigen recognition region. There is therefore a great need to provide nucleic acid and amino acid sequences of T cell receptors which are able to specifically recognize clinically relevant peptide antigens in particular tumour-specific peptide antigens.

According to the invention tumour-infiltrating lymphocytes (TIL) could be isolated from a kidney carcinoma which have a high specificity for tumour tissue from patients with the HLA-A*0201 allele. These TIL show no reaction with healthy kidney tissue from the same patient.

An analysis was carried out of the nucleotide and amino acid sequences of the T cell receptors expressed by these TIL. In this process a homogeneous CD8⁺ T cell clone was firstly obtained by culturing and periodic restimulating the TIL over a period of 62 and 74 days respectively. The cDNA coding for the α and β chain of the T cell receptor was sequenced. The nucleotide and amino acid sequence of the α chain are shown in the sequence protocols SEQ ID NO. 1 and SEQ ID NO. 2. The CDR3 α region in SEQ ID NO. 1 extends from bp 313 to 348 corresponding to the amino acids 87-98 in SEQ ID NO. 2. The nucleotide and amino acid sequence of the β chain are shown in the sequence protocols SEQ ID NO. 3 and SEQ ID NO. 4. The CDR3 β region in SEQ ID NO. 3 extends from bp 331 to 369 in SEQ ID NO. 3 corresponding to the amino acids 90-102.

In the case of the α chain a combination of V α 20 with J α 22 was found in the variable region and in the case of the β chain a combination of V β 22, D β 2 and J β 2.7.

Subsequently a sequence analysis of the tumour-specific T cell receptors was carried out with a culture for only 24 days. In this case a homogeneous T cell clone was not found but rather a mixture of several T cell species. The amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 2 as well as in all two further amino acid sequences were able to be identified for the α chain. 11 out of 56 examined T cell species coded for the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 2 of the CDR3 α region from position 87 to 98. the nucleotide sequence of the α chains in these T cells differed from the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 1 only by a substitution of T by G at position 324.

The nucleotide and amino acid sequence of the CDR3 region of a further α chain which was identified in 38 out of the 56 examined T cells is shown in the sequence protocols SEQ ID NO. 5 and 6. In addition two further T cell species were identified which contained a CDR3 α region with the same amino acid sequence to that shown in SEQ ID NO. 6 but whose nucleotide sequence each differed by a base substitution (C at position 9 substituted by G or T at position 12 substituted by C).

The nucleotide and amino acid sequence of the CDR3 α region from a third T cell variant which occurred at a frequency of 5 out of 56 examined T cell species is shown in the sequence protocols SEQ ID NO. 7 and 8.

The corresponding sequencing of the β chains yielded a total of 6 different amino acid sequences for the CDR3 region. A CDR3 β sequence which was found in 15 out of 50 examined T cells is shown in the sequence protocols SEQ ID NO. 9 and 10. A further T cell species contained the same amino acid sequence but a different nucleotide

sequence (substitution of A at position 15 by T).

One T cell species in each case contained the nucleotide and amino acid sequences shown in the sequence protocols SEQ ID NO. 11 and 12, 13 and 14 or 15 and 16 in the CDR3 β region.

27 out of 50 clones contained the nucleotide and amino acid sequences shown in the sequence protocols 17 and 18 in the CDR3 β region. 4 out of 50 examined clones contained the nucleotide and amino acid sequences shown in the sequence protocols SEQ ID NO. 19 and 20 in the CDR3 β region.

In addition an in situ sequencing of TIL was carried out i.e. a sequencing without prior culture. For this the entire RNA was isolated from the tumour, a TCR-specific cDNA was prepared using a TCR α - or TCR β -specific primer and reverse transcriptase and this cDNA was selectively amplified by PCR using family-specific primers (V α 20 and V β 22). The amplification products were cloned into E. coli and sequenced. In this process a series of single sequences was obtained.

Circa 60 % of all sequences of the α chain correspond to the amino acid sequences shown in the sequence protocols SEQ ID NO. 2, 6 and 8. A further 20 % had very similar sequences which were also composed of a combination of V α 20 and J α 22. An overview of the CDR3 α regions identified in this in situ sequencing of T cells from patient 26 is shown in Fig. 1.

Furthermore it was found in the in situ sequencing that ca. 70 % of all sequences of the β chain correspond to

the amino acid sequences shown in the sequence protocols 4, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20. An overview of the CDR3 sequences of the β chain identified in the in situ sequencing is shown in Fig. 2.

In a control experiment TIL from another patient with the HLA-A*0201 allele were analysed by in situ sequencing. It was found that the CDR3 α regions of 15 and 4 of the total of 34 examined T cell species contained the amino acid sequences shown in SEQ ID NO. 2 and SEQ ID NO. 6. An overview of the relevant CDR3 α sequences and their frequency is shown in Fig. 3. An overview of the results which were obtained when sequencing the CDR3 regions of the β chain is shown in Fig. 4.

Hence a first aspect of the present invention concerns a nucleic acid which codes for the α chain of a human T cell receptor, a functional derivative or a fragment thereof and comprises a CDR3 region composed of a combination of a V α 20 gene segment and a J α 22 gene segment. The length of the amino acid section coded by this CDR3 region is 11-14 amino acids and preferably 12 or 13 amino acids. The CDR3 region particularly preferably codes for one of the amino acid sequences shown in the sequence protocols SEQ ID NO. 2, 6 and 8, a sequence that is at least 80 % and in particular at least 90 % identical to this or a sequence which codes for an amino acid sequence with an equivalent recognition specificity for the peptide component of the T cell receptor ligand.

A further aspect of the present invention is a nucleic acid which codes for the α chain of a human T cell

receptor, or for a functional derivative or a fragment thereof and comprises a CDR3 region selected from:

- (a) a nucleotide sequence coding for the amino acid sequence



in which $X_1 \dots X_n$ represents a sequence of 3-5 amino acids,

- (b) a nucleotide sequence which codes for an amino acid sequence which is at least 80 % and in particular at least 90 % identical with the amino acid sequence from (a) or
- (c) a nucleotide sequence which codes for an amino acid sequence with an equivalent recognition specificity for the peptide component of the T cell receptor ligand.

The amino acid sequence $X_1 \dots X_n$ is preferably selected from the group comprising the amino acid sequences VGG, VLSG, ATG, VSG, DSG, VVSG, ALAG, APSG and VGR. The amino acid sequence $X_1 \dots X_n$ is particularly preferably selected from the amino acid sequences VGG, VLSG and ATG.

A particular feature of the tumour-specific CDR3 α regions of the invention is a length of 12-13 amino acids and a common sequence motif. Thus if the sequence $X_1 \dots X_n$ has a length of 3 amino acids X_1 is preferably V or A, X_2 is preferably T, G or S and X_3 is preferably G. If the length of the sequence $X_1 \dots X_n$ is 4 amino

acids then preferably $X_1 = V$ or A , at least one of X_2 or X_3 is T or S and $X_4 = G$.

A sequencing of the β chains from both patients that were examined yielded a combination of the gene segments $V\beta 22$, $D\beta 1$ or $D\beta 2$ and $J\beta 2.7$ for the first patient and a combination of the gene segments $V\beta 22$, $D\beta 1$ or $D\beta 2$ and $J\beta 2.1$, $J\beta 2.3$ or $J\beta 2.7$ for the second patient.

Hence a further aspect of the present invention is a nucleic acid which codes for the β chain of a human T cell receptor, or for a functional derivative or a fragment thereof and comprises a CDR3 region which is composed of a combination of a $V\beta 22$ gene segment of a $D\beta 1$ or $D\beta 2$ gene segment and of a $J\beta$ gene segment in particular of a $J\beta 2.1$, $J\beta 2.3$ or $J\beta 2.7$ gene segment.

The length of the amino acid section coded by this CDR3 β region is 12-14 amino acids, preferably 13 amino acids. Furthermore this CDR3 β region preferably contains a common sequence motif i.e. $X-T$ or $S-X-S$ in which X represents an arbitrary amino acid and T or S particularly preferably denote T . A total of 70 % of the examined T cell receptors have such a sequence pattern.

Yet a further aspect of the present invention is a nucleic acid which codes for the β chain of a human T cell receptor, or for a functional derivative or a fragment thereof and comprises a CDR3 region which is selected from:

- (a) a nucleotide sequence coding for the amino acid sequence

C A (X'₁ ... X'_n) Y/D E Q Y F (II)

in which X'₁ ... X'_n represents a sequence of 5-7 amino acids,

- (b) a nucleotide sequence coding for the amino acid sequence

C A (X''₁ ... X''_n) N E Q F F (III)

in which X''₁ ... X''_n represents a sequence of 5-7 amino acids,

- (c) a nucleotide sequence coding for the amino acid sequence

C A (X'''₁ ... X'''_n) D T Q Y F (IV)

in which X'''₁ ... X'''_n represents a sequence of 5-7 amino acids,

- (d) a nucleotide sequence which codes for an amino acid sequence that is at least 80 % and in particular at least 90 % identical with an amino acid sequence from (a), (b) or/and (c), or
- (e) a nucleotide sequence which codes for an amino acid sequence with an equivalent recognition specificity for the peptide component of the T cell receptor ligand.

The amino acid sequence X'₁ ... X'_n is preferably selected from the group comprising SSETNS, SSETSS,

TSGTAS, RSGTGS, SSGTDS, SSGTRS, SSGSDS, SSSTGS, SSSTVS, SSSTLS, SSSTLF, SSSTAS, SSHTDS, SSDTLS and SRWDSE. The amino acid sequence $X'_1 \dots X'_n$ particularly preferably represents SSETNS, SSGTDS, TSGTAS or RSGTGS. The amino acid sequence $X''_1 \dots X''_n$ preferably denotes SSGTSSY or SSDQGM. The amino acid sequence $X'''_1 \dots X'''_n$ preferably denotes SADSFK.

Within the sense of the present invention the term "functional derivative of a chain of a human T cell receptor" is understood as a polypeptide which comprises at least one CDR3 α or/and CDR3 β region as defined above and together with the respective complementary chain of the human T cell receptor (or a derivative of such a chain) can form a T cell receptor derivative which has an equivalent recognition specificity for a peptide ligand presented by a MHC molecule to that of the non-derivatized T cell receptor. Such a T cell receptor has a binding constant of at least 10^{-4} l/mol, preferably 10^{-4} to 10^{-5} l/mol for the presenting peptide ligand.

Functional derivatives of chains of a human T cell receptor can for example be prepared by deletion, substitution or/and insertion of sections of the gene coding for the respective polypeptide by means of recombinant DNA techniques. The preparation of recombinant T cell receptor chains is for example described in Blank et al. (1993), Eur. J. Immunol. 23, 3057-3065; Lin et al. (1990) Science 249: 677, Gregoire et al. (1991), Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 88: 8077; Kappes and Tonegawa (1991), Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 88: 10619 and Ward (1991), Scand. J. Immunol. 34: 215. Explicit reference is herewith made to these literature citations.

Particular preferred functional derivatives of T cell receptor chains or T cell receptors are single chain T cell receptors which can for example be composed of the variable domains of the α and β chain and a constant domain. The preparation of such constructs is described by Chung et al. (1994), Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 91: 12654-12658. A further preferred example of functional derivatives are soluble TCR fragments which can be prepared as separate polypeptides or as single chain polypeptides cf. e.g. Hilyard et al. (1994), Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 91: 9057-9061. Explicit reference is also made to the disclosure in these literature citations.

A further subject matter of the present invention is a vector which contains at least one copy of a nucleic acid according to the invention. This vector can be a prokaryotic vector or a eukaryotic vector. Examples of prokaryotic vectors are plasmids, cosmids and bacteriophages. Such vectors are described in detail in Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning. A Laboratory Manual, 2nd Edition (1989), Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, in chapters 1-4. The prokaryotic vector is preferably a plasmid.

On the other hand the vector can also be a eukaryotic vector e.g. a yeast vector, a plant vector (baculovirus) or a mammalian vector (a plasmid vector or a viral vector). Examples of eukaryotic vectors are described in Sambrook et al., Supra, chapter 16 and Winnacker, Gene and Klone, "Eine Einführung in die Gentechnologie" (1985), VCH "Verlagsgesellschaft" in particular in chapters 5, 8 and 10.

Yet a further subject matter of the invention is a cell

which expresses a nucleic acid according to the invention or a cell which is transformed with a nucleic acid according to the invention or with a vector according to the invention. The cell can be a prokaryotic cell (e.g. a gram-negative bacterial cell, in particular E. coli) or a eukaryotic cell (e.g. a yeast, plant or mammalian cell). Examples of suitable cells and methods for introducing the nucleic acid according to the invention into such cells may be found in the above literature references.

A further subject matter of the present invention is a polypeptide which is coded by a nucleic acid according to the invention. The polypeptide particularly preferably contains the variable domain of the α or/and β chain of a human T cell receptor.

A polypeptide is particularly preferred which has T cell receptor properties and is composed of a TCR α chain or a functional derivative thereof as well as a TCR β chain or a functional derivative thereof as subunits. The polypeptide can be composed of two separate chains or be present as a single chain polypeptide. In addition the polypeptide may also be present in an oligomerized form in which at least 2 and preferably 2-10 TCR α and TCR β chains are linked together. The linkage can for example be achieved by means of bifunctional chemical linkers.

Yet a further subject matter of the present invention is an antibody against a polypeptide according to the invention which is directed towards a region of the polypeptide which is responsible for recognizing the peptide ligand. This antibody can be a polyclonal antiserum, a monoclonal antibody or a fragment of a

polyclonal or monoclonal antibody (e.g. a Fab, $F(ab)_2$, Fab' or $F(ab')_2$ fragment). The antibody is preferably directed towards a CDR3 region of the polypeptide or an area thereof. Such antibodies can be obtained by well-known methods by immunizing an experimental animal with a peptide or polypeptide which contains a CDR3 region according to the invention and isolating the resulting antibodies from the experimental animal. Monoclonal antibodies can be obtained by fusing an antibody-producing B cell of the experimental animal with a leukemia cell according to the method of Köhler and Milstein or further developments thereof. Specific examples of the production of such antibodies can be found in Choi et al. (1991), Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 88: 8357-8361 and Zumla et al. (1992), Hum. Immunol. 35: 141.

Yet a further subject matter of the present invention is a T cell which contains a T cell receptor according to the invention. Such T cells can be isolated from patients with kidney cell carcinoma and then be expanded in vitro. For this the peripheral mononuclear blood cells of a patient can for example be produced by stimulation with suitable antigens and subsequent restimulation for example with an irradiated autologous lymphoblastoid cell line, tumour cells, lymphoblastoid cells plus antigens or autologous peripheral blood lymphocytes plus antigen. Further methods for obtaining T cells according to the invention are described below.

The invention also concerns a pharmaceutical composition which contains a nucleic acid, a polypeptide, a peptide ligand capable of binding to the polypeptide optionally in association with a corresponding MHC molecule, an antibody or a cell as described above as active

components optionally together with other active components as well as common pharmaceutical auxiliary substances, additives or carrier substances. Examples of other active components are accessory stimulating components e.g. cytokines such as IL-2 and IL-4.

The pharmaceutical composition can be used to produce a diagnostic or therapeutic agent. Examples of diagnostic applications are the diagnosis of tumour diseases or a predisposition for tumour diseases. A further preferred diagnostic application is the monitoring of the disease course in a tumour disease e.g. after chemotherapy or a surgical operation.

The use of the pharmaceutical composition as a diagnostic agent preferably comprises the detection of a T cell subpopulation which expresses a polypeptide according to the invention as a T cell receptor. The detection of this T cell receptor can for example be achieved at the nucleic acid level e.g. by a nucleic acid hybridization assay optionally with a prior amplification. On the other hand the detection can also be carried out at the protein level by an immunoassay using antibodies that react specifically with the T cell receptor. In addition it is also possible to detect the T cells for example by means of a test for binding to specific peptide ligands or in an activity test in which the specific cytotoxic action of the T cells or the release of cytokines such as TNF or IFN γ is determined.

Furthermore the pharmaceutical composition according to the invention can also be used therapeutically in particular for the prevention or therapy of a tumour disease e.g. of a kidney cell carcinoma. This

therapeutic application can for example be based on the fact that T cells which express the tumour specific T cell receptor are stimulated to grow in vitro or in vivo. The growth stimulation in vivo can for example be achieved by administering the peptide ligand of the T cell receptor or/and the whole molecule from which the peptide ligand is derived or a fragment thereof. Furthermore the growth stimulation in vivo can also be accomplished by administering an antibody which specifically activates the T cell receptor by binding e.g. a monoclonal antibody or a monoclonal antibody fragment.

On the other hand the growth stimulation of the T cells can also be carried out in vitro for example by isolating specific T cells from the patient, in vitro expansion and subsequent administration of the expanded T cells as a tumour vaccine. T cells which express a tumour specific T cell receptor are isolated from a patient preferably by contacting a sample from the patient which contains T cells, e.g. a blood sample and preferably a sample derived from the tumour tissue, with an agent which specifically binds to the CDR3 region of the T cell receptor, identifying the T cells which react with the agent and optionally separating them from other T cells. The agent that binds to the CDR3 region of the T cell receptor is preferably selected from the peptide ligand of the T cells, a peptide ligand-MHC complex or/and an anti-TCR antibody. Optionally the in vitro expansion can additionally be carried out in the presence of costimulatory factors such as anti-CD28 antibodies. In order to facilitate separation of the desired T cell subpopulation, the agent is preferably used in an immobilized or immobilizable form.

The isolation of T cells which express a tumour specific T cell receptor can, however, also be achieved in another manner e.g. by introducing nucleic acid sequences which code for the T cell receptor into a T cell line, preferably a cytotoxic T cell line. The T cell receptor is then expressed in this transfected T cell line. In this manner it is possible to obtain T cells in large amounts which express a tumour specific T cell receptor.

Yet another method for isolating T cells which express a tumour specific T cell receptor is to introduce nucleic acid sequences which code for the T cell receptor into the germ line of an animal and to isolate the T cells from the resulting transgenic animal or its descendants. Transgenic mice are preferably produced. Furthermore it is preferred that the transgenic mice also express the human CD8 molecule or/and the human HLA-A*0201 molecule in addition to the T cell receptor.

Hence a further subject matter of the present invention is also a transgenic animal which has T cells that express a tumour specific T cell receptor. This transgenic animal is preferably a rodent in particular a mouse.

Finally the invention also concerns a method for the identification of peptide ligands of a T cell receptor according to the invention. This method preferably comprises the steps:

- (a) isolating RNA from tumour tissue,

- (b) converting the RNA into double-stranded cDNA molecules,
- (c) introducing the cDNA molecules into host cells to obtain a cDNA bank,
- (d) transfecting eukaryotic recipient cells with aliquots of the cDNA bank in which (i) there is a cotransfection with HLA-A*0201 DNA or (ii) HLA-A*0201-positive recipient cells are used,
- (e) testing the transfected recipient cells for their ability to secrete cytokines such as TNF in which case it is possible for example to examine the lysis of TNF-sensitive cells,
- (f) identifying a cDNA sequence which codes for the antigen which contains the peptide ligand and
- (g) identifying the sequence of the peptide ligand.

The invention is further elucidated by the following examples, figures and sequence protocols.

SEQ ID NO. 1: shows the nucleotide sequence of the TCR α chain of a T cell receptor according to the invention in which bp 55-324/325 codes for the TCR-V α 20 gene segment, bp 325/326 codes for the TCR J α 22 gene segment, bp 381-804 codes for the TCR-C α gene segment and bp 805-1341 represent a 3' untranslated region,

SEQ ID NO. 2: shows the amino acid sequence of the

- nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 1,
- SEQ ID NO. 3: shows the nucleotide sequence of the TCR β chain of a T cell receptor according to the invention in which bp 1-63 code for the leader peptide, bp 64-341 code for the TCR-V β 22 gene segment, bp 342-345 are nucleotides, bp 346-349 code for the TCR-D β 2 gene segment, bp 350 is an N-nucleotide, bp 351-398 code for the TCR-J β 2.7 gene segment and bp 399-936 code for the TCR-C β gene segment,
- SEQ ID NO. 4: shows the amino acid sequence of the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 3,
- SEQ ID NO. 5 and 6 show nucleotide and amino acid sequences of the CDR3 α region of a T cell receptor according to the invention
- SEQ ID NO. 7 and 8: show nucleotide and amino acid sequences of the CDR3 α region of a T cell receptor according to the invention
- SEQ ID NO. 9 and 10: show nucleotide and amino acid sequences of the CDR3 β region of a T cell receptor according to the invention
- SEQ ID NO. 11 and 12: show nucleotide and amino acid sequences of the CDR3 β region of a T cell receptor according to the invention
- SEQ ID NO. 13 and 14: show nucleotide and amino acid sequences of the CDR3 β region of a T cell receptor according to the invention
- SEQ ID NO. 15 and 16: show nucleotide and amino acid sequences

of the CDR3 β region of a T cell receptor according to the invention

SEQ ID NO. 17

and 18 show nucleotide and amino acid sequences of the CDR3 β region of a T cell receptor according to the invention

SEQ ID NO. 19

and 20: show nucleotide and amino acid sequences of the CDR3 β region of a T cell receptor according to the invention

SEQ ID NO. 21 shows the nucleotide sequence of the TCR α -specific primer P-C α ST,

SEQ ID NO. 22 shows the nucleotide sequence of the TCR β -specific primer P-C β ST

Fig. 1 shows nucleotide and amino acid sequences of the CDR3 α regions from tumour-specific TCR which have been determined by in situ sequencing of T cells of patient 26,

Fig. 2 shows nucleotide and amino acid sequences of CDR3 β regions of tumour-specific TCR which have been determined by in situ sequencing of T cells of patient 26,

Fig. 3 shows nucleotide and amino acid sequences of CDR3 α regions of tumour-specific TCR which have been determined by in situ sequencing of T cells of patient 22,

Fig. 4 shows nucleotide and amino acid sequences of CDR3 β regions of tumour-specific TCR which have been determined by in situ sequencing of T cells of patient 22,

Example 1

Analysis of T cell receptors in HLA-A2 patients with kidney cell carcinoma

Cytotoxic CD8⁺ T cells were identified in kidney cell patient 26 which lysed autologous tumour cells with a HLA-A2 restricted mechanism. The T cells have a high tumour specificity since short-term cultures of normal kidney cells are not recognized. The determinants recognized by the TIL of patient 26 were also found on other tumours of patients which carry the HLA-A2 gene in particular the widespread HLA-A*0201 allele. Normal kidney cells of these patients were not lysed. These results show that the kidney carcinoma cells of patient 26 express a tumour determinant i.e. a tumour-associated peptide/HLA-A2 complex which is also present on the tumours of other patients.

Total RNA is isolated from T cells in order to identify and sequence tumour-specific TCR. For this the cells in suspension are washed with PBS and the cell pellet is resuspended with 0.2 ml RNazol-B per 1×10^6 cells. 2 ml RNazol-B per 100 mg tissue is added to extract the RNA from the tissue. After mechanically resuspending the lysates several times and optionally adding yeast tRNA as a carrier matrix, the RNA is extracted by adding 0.2 ml chloroform per 2 ml homogenate, subsequently mixing for 15 sec. and storing for 5 minutes on ice.

After a centrifugation step at 12,000 g for 15 min at 4°C, the aqueous phase is removed and transferred into a new reaction vessel. The first precipitation of the RNA is carried out by adding an identical volume of

isopropanol and subsequently storing for at least 15 min at 4°C. After centrifuging for 15 min at 12,000 g and 4°C, the RNA is obtained as a white pellet at the bottom of the vessel.

After discarding the supernatant, the RNA pellet is purified of salts by briefly mixing in 75 % ethanol. After centrifuging (7500 g, 4°C, 8 min), the pellet is dissolved in 175 µl water treated with diethylpyrocarbonate (DEPC) and precipitated again with 500 µl ethanol and 75 µl 2 M NaCl for at least 1 h at -20°C. The centrifugation and washing steps after the second precipitation are carried out as described for the first precipitation. After drying the pellets in air, the RNA is resuspended in H₂O-DEPC or 0.5 % SDS, pH 6.5 to 7.0 or 1 mM EDTA, pH 7.0.

Subsequently cDNA is synthesized from the RNA by reverse transcription. For this 3 µg total RNA is incubated for 10 minutes at 55°C with 30 ng P-CαST (a specific primer for the TCRα chain with the sequence 5'-CAC TGA AGA TCC ATC ATC TG-3' shown in SEQ ID NO. 21) and 30 ng P-CβST (a specific primer for the TCRβ chain with the sequence 5'-TAG AGG ATG GTG GCA GAC AG-3' shown in SEQ ID NO. 22) in a reaction volume of 10 µl. Afterwards 38 µl RAV-2-RT buffer (100 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.3; 140 mM KCl; 10 mM MgCl₂; 2 mM dithiothreitol, 0.1 mM of each dNTP), 1 µl (0.75 U) rRNasin and 1 µl (18 U) reverse transcriptase are added by pipette. The reverse transcription is carried out for 1 h at 42°C, followed by a denaturation step at 68°C for 5 min. It is stored until use at -20°C.

Subsequently a polymerase chain reaction is carried out. The primer can be biotinylated in order to enable the

PCR products to be subsequently purified by coupling to a magnetic particulate solid phase (streptavidin-coated beads).

The PCR is carried out using a thermostable DNA polymerase and the following reaction scheme:

95°C 5 min. predenaturation (only at the beginning)
95°C 30 sec DNA denaturation
56°C 1 min annealing
72°C 1 min extension
72°C 10 min filling up all single strands in the reaction solution (only at the end).

The number of reaction cycles in the PCR is usually 30.

The PCR fragments obtained in this manner are sequenced.

When the cytotoxic T cells from patient 26 are cultured and periodically restimulated over a period of 62 and 74 days respectively, a uniform CD8⁺ T cell clone is obtained. The nucleotide and amino acid sequence of the TCR α chain of this T cell clone from patient 26 are shown in SEQ ID NO. 1 and 2. The nucleotide and amino acid sequence of the TCR β chain are shown in SEQ ID NO. 3 and 4.

When the tumour infiltrating lymphocytes from patient 26 were only cultured for 24 days, the T cell clone was not found to be homogeneous but rather a mixture of several T cell species. The CDR α regions of these T cell species contained a total of two further sequences (SEQ ID NO. 5 and 6 and 7 and 8) in addition to the amino acid

sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 2. In addition to the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 4, the CDR3 β regions contained further closely related sequences (SEQ ID NO. 9 and 10, 11 and 12, 13 and 14, 15 and 16, 17 and 18 and 19 and 20).

Furthermore the T cells of patient 26 were sequenced in situ i.e. sequenced without prior culturing. In this process a series of individual sequences was obtained for the CDR3 α region which are shown in Fig. 1. Circa 60 % of all sequences of the α chain correspond to the sequences previously described. A further 20 % correspond to very similar sequences.

Also in the case of the CDR3 regions of the β chain it was found that a total of 70 % of the examined T cells of patient 26 had a very similar sequence pattern (Fig. 2).

Peripheral blood samples from patient 26 were analyzed for T cell receptors which have features of tumour-specific T cell receptors over 4 years in all. It was found that such sequences only occurred with a frequency of about 1/150,000 T cells.

Cytotoxicity investigations showed that the tumour-specific T cells isolated from patient 26 could also lyse tumour cells of patient 22 which also carry the HLA-A*0201 allele. Tumour infiltrating T cells from patient 22 could in turn lyse tumour cells from patient 26. A sequencing of the T cell receptors from patient 22 yielded the results shown in Fig. 3 for the CDR3 α region and in Fig. 4 for the CDR3 β region.

Example 2

Expression of T cell receptors

2.1 Expression of tumour specific T cell receptors in human or murine T cell lines

The nucleic acid sequences identified in example 1 which code for tumour specific TCR α and β chains are cloned into eukaryotic human and murine expression vectors. The human expression vector is described in Chung et al. (Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 92 (1995): 3712-3716). The murine vectors are described in Gabert et al. (Cell 50 (1987: 545-554) and Gregoire et al. (Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 88 (1991): 8077-8081).

The TCR DNA can either be cloned from rearranged genomic DNA or from cDNA. Basically two cloning strategies are available: firstly the isolation of very long TCR α and β DNA fragments from the genome of mature T cells which contain several Kb long 5' flanking sequences with all regulatory elements required for expression. Alternatively vectors can be selected which already contain the natural 5' regulatory elements and in which only short fragments coding for the variable regions have to be cloned in (Kouskoff et al. J. Immunol. Methods 180 (1995): 273-280). In the latter method the sequence of the variable region (including the leader sequence) is examined for mistakes by sequencing after amplification by means of specific PCR and subsequently introduced into the vector after digestion with appropriate restriction

endonucleases.

The PCR α and β chains can either be cloned into a common vector or into two different vectors. Each of the vectors used contains a selection marker which enables the positive selection of successfully transfected cells after transfection of the recipient cells with the recombinant plasmid. Preferred selection markers are for example the gene for neomycin resistance (neo) or the gene for xanthine-guanine-phosphoribosyl-transferase (GPT).

2.2 Expression of functional T cell receptors as single chain constructs

Similarly to antibodies it is possible to express TCR as single chain constructs in eukaryotic cells (Chung et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 91 (1994): 12654-12658). In this method a construct is prepared which also contains the constant domain of the β chain in addition to the variable domains of the TCR α and β chain. The individual domains are amplified by means of PCR as described in example 1 after isolation of the corresponding RNA and reverse transcription. In this process suitable restriction cleavage sites are inserted at the ends of the amplification products. The individual fragments are then ligated together as follows in a eukaryotic expression vector (e.g. pBJ-Neo) which carries a positive selection marker: the variable TCR α and β domains comprising leader, V-(D)- and J exon are separated by a linker sequence e.g. a DNA fragment coding for the amino acid sequence

(GGGGS)₃. The exon for the constant TCR β domain is ligated directly to the variable β domain.

Alternatively coding sequences for a GPI anchor (Lin et al., Science 249 (1990): 677-679) or for example the transmembrane part and the intracellular domain of the CD3 ζ chain (Engel et al., Science 256 (1992): 1318-1321) can be ligated to the 3' end of this construct. After transfection of these constructs in eukaryotic cells, the former enables the production of soluble TCR molecules which can be used as an immunogen to produce antibodies. The latter enables the functional analysis of the construct in biological systems.

2.3 Production of soluble human TCR fragments in E. coli

Large amounts of soluble TCR fragments can be produced in E. coli as single chain polypeptides (Hilyard et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 91 (1994): 9057-9061).

For this various genes or gene fragments are cloned into an inducible prokaryotic vector e.g. pUC19. The fragments to be ligated are reamplified by means of specific PCR in the process of which suitable restriction cleavage sites are added.

The following fragments are cloned into the vector in the order shown:

1. A prokaryotic signal sequence e.g. the pelB-leader sequence from the pectate lyase gene of

*Erwinia carolovor*a (Ward et al., Nature 341 (1989): 8646-8650) which causes a secretion of the polypeptide into the periplasm of the host bacterium.

2. The variable PCR α and β chain fragments from a tumour-specific TCR. These fragments are preferably separated by a linker e.g. the linker shown in example 2.2. which improves the solubility and the flexibility of the synthesized molecule.
3. A nucleotide sequence coding for a tail made of several e.g. 6 histidine residues which enables the recombinant polypeptide to be isolated by affinity chromatography e.g. by nickel chelate chromatography.

Example 3

Production of antibodies against tumour-specific T cell receptors

Mice are immunized with the appropriate antigen to produce antisera or monoclonal antibodies against tumour-specific TCR. The immunization is carried out according to the protocols given by Harlow, E. and David, C., Antibodies. A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, 1988. TCR expressing cells (example 2.1) or soluble TCR (example 2.2 or example 2.3) can for example be selected as antigens.

Alternatively the soluble TCR used for the immunization

can also be produced as chimeric proteins which are composed of a variable TCR region, a truncated constant TCR region and a constant immunoglobulin region (cf. e.g. Gregoire et al. (1991), Supra). For this the specific variable TCR α and β regions are each cloned into a plasmid which already contains the first exon, a corresponding C region and an IgGk domain. Both plasmids additionally contain a positive selection marker and the regulatory elements required for correct expression. Both plasmids are then used to transfect a mouse myeloma cell line which does not express endogenous heavy and light Ig chains. After the transfection is completed both chimeric chains are synthesized and preferentially secreted as heterodimers.

Alternatively a TCR protein antigen for immunizing mice can be constructed as follows: A human V gene segment is fused to a TCR gene segment composed of (D), J and C gene segments from a mouse T cell hybridoma i.e. the gene segments are cloned in this order into a eukaryotic expression vector (Choi et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 88 (1991): 8357-8361). The human sequence is obtained from the corresponding cDNA by means of PCR by amplifying the V region. Such constructs are then used to transfect mouse T cell hybridomas which provide all components apart from the corresponding transfected chains. Since the plasmids also code for selection markers, transfectants can be positively selected by an appropriate medium. Since these transfectants represent mouse T cells which express a human V region, mice that are immunized with such cells only produce antibodies against this foreign human sequence.

Example 4

Identification of the peptide ligands of tumour specific T cells

Poly-A⁺ mRNA is isolated from a kidney cell carcinoma line using a commercial kit (Fastrack/Invitrogen) and converted into double-stranded cDNA using the Superscript Choice System kit (Gibco) using a NotI/Oligo-dT primer for the first strand synthesis. The cDNA is ligated with BstXI adaptors and cleaved with NotI. High molecular size fractionated cDNA is selected and cloned into the vector pcDNA1/Amp (Invitrogen) cleaved with BstXI and NotI.

E. coli DH5 α cells are transformed by electroporation with the recombinant plasmids and selected with ampicillin. The cDNA bank obtained in this manner is divided into 1500 pools each comprising approximately 100 clones. Each pool is amplified to saturation and the plasmid DNA is isolated from this by alkaline lysis without phenol extraction.

In each case approximately 100 ng plasmid DNA of a pool is transfected together with 50 ng plasmid DNA of the same vector which carries the HLA-A*0201-cDNA (gene bank, ACC No.: M32322, K02883, M84379, X02457) into 15000 COS7 cells according to the DEAE-dextran-chloroquine method. Alternatively the COS7 cells can also be transfected with the HLA-A*0201 DNA and the stable transfectants obtained in this manner can be used as recipient cells.

24-48 hours after transfection the COS7 cells are tested

for their ability to stimulate the release of TNF by tumour specific cytotoxic T cells (CTL). A test is carried out in each case with 200 pools i.e. 200 independent transfections of COS7 cells.

For this 3000 CTL are added to the wells of microtitre plates containing COS7 transfectants. After 18 hours the supernatant of the medium is collected and its TNF content is determined using an activity test in which TNF sensitive cell lines such as the mouse fibroblast cell lines WEHI 164 or L929 are lysed by TNF. Viable cultures can be distinguished from lysed cells by a colorimetric test using 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT).

A new cycle of COS7 transfection was carried out for each positive microculture in which smaller pools of bacteria from the original pool containing a total of 100 clones were used in each case. This procedure is repeated until a single plasmid is identified which can induce the TNF release from the specific TCL after co-expression with HLA-A*0201 cDNA in COS7 cells.

The sequence of the plasmid insertion is determined by standard methods. The confirmation that this sequence codes for the tumour peptide is achieved by transfecting normal human HLA-A*0201 cells which are not lysed by the tumour specific CTL. These cells are sensitive for a lysis after transfection with the corresponding cDNA. Furthermore the tumour specific expression of the identified cDNA is determined by Northern blot using the cDNA as a probe. This probe is used for hybridization to mRNA from various tumour cell lines of normal tissue samples.

The tumour specific peptide can be identified by various methods. The corresponding protein sequence is derived from the cDNA sequence and screened for binding motifs which had been identified in other HLA-A*0201 binding peptides. Synthetic peptides which overlap with potential HLA-A*0201 binding regions are then tested for their ability to activate CTL after incubation with HLA-A*0201 cells. Alternatively overlapping peptides of 8-9 amino acids in length can be produced by synthesis and tested in a similar manner.

Example 5

Production of transgenic mice

Total RNA is isolated from a specific T cell clone and cDNA is synthesized by reverse transcription (cf. example 1). Using primers specific for the V region, TCR-cDNA for the V α and V β regions is amplified and cloned into TCR gene cassettes which contain constant regions and the necessary regulation elements for expression. Separate cassettes for TCR α and TCR β sequences are known which each carry a different selection marker (Kouskoff et al., (1995), Supra).

Fertilized mouse oocytes are simultaneously microinjected with DNA from the TCR α as well as from the TCR β cassettes. The injected oocytes are transferred back into female mice (Mellor, A.L., Transgenesis and the T cell receptor. in: T cell receptors (1995), J. I. Bell, M. J. Owen and E. Simpson, eds. pp 194-223, Oxford University Press, Oxford, New York, Tokyo).

The introduction of productively rearranged TCR genes in

the mouse has a major influence on the TCR repertoire since rearranged TCR foreign genes prevent the further rearrangement of endogenous TCR genes. Consequently nearly all thymocytes and T cells express the heterologous TCR clonotype so that the TCR repertoire in such mice is essentially monoclonal.

Transgenic mice are identified by genotype analysis using probes which are specific for the DNA contained in the foreign gene that does not occur in the mouse genome. This can either be carried out by Southern blot hybridization or preferably by PCR.

Transgenic descendants of the mice are obtained by crossing with non-transgenic mice of a suitable strain, typing the descendants and using them for further crossing.

Claims

1. Nucleic acid which codes for the α chain of a human T cell receptor, or for a functional derivative or a fragment thereof and which comprises a CDR3 region formed from a combination of a V α 20 and J α 22 gene segment.
2. Nucleic acid which codes for the α chain of a human T cell receptor, or for a functional derivative or a fragment thereof and comprises a CDR3 region selected from:

- (a) a nucleotide sequence coding for the amino acid sequence

Y C L (X₁...X_n) S A R Q L T F (I)

in which X₁ ... X_n represents a sequence of 3-5 amino acids,

- (b) a nucleotide sequence which codes for an amino acid sequence which is at least 80 % identical with the amino acid sequence from (a), or
- (c) a nucleotide sequence which codes for an amino acid sequence with an equivalent recognition specificity for the peptide component of the T cell receptor ligands.

3. Nucleic acid as claimed in claim 2,
w h e r e i n
the amino acid sequence $X_1 \dots X_n$ is selected from
the group comprising the amino acid sequences VGG,
VLSG, ATG, VSG, DSG, VVSG, ALAG, APSG and VGR.
4. Nucleic acid as claimed in claim 3,
w h e r e i n
the amino acid sequence $X_1 \dots X_n$ is selected from
the group comprising amino acid sequences VGG, VLSG
and ATG.
5. Vector,
w h e r e i n
it contains at least one copy of a nucleic acid as
claimed in one of the claims 1 to 4.
6. Cell,
w h e r e i n
it expresses a nucleic acid as claimed in one of
the claims 1 to 4.
7. Cell,
w h e r e i n
it is transformed with a nucleic acid as claimed in
one of the claims 1 to 4 or with a vector as
claimed in claim 5.
8. Polypeptide,
w h e r e i n
it is coded by a nucleic acid as claimed in one of
the claims 1 to 4.

9. Polypeptide as claimed in claim 8,
w h e r e i n
it comprises the variable domain of the α chain of
a human T cell receptor.
10. Nucleic acid which codes for the β chain of a human
T cell receptor, or for a functional derivative or
a fragment thereof and comprises a CDR3 region
formed from a combination of a $V\beta 22$ gene segment, a
 $D\beta 1$ or $D\beta 2$ gene segment and a $J\beta$ gene segment in
particular a $J\beta 2.1$, $J\beta 2.3$ or $J\beta 2.7$ gene segment.
11. Nucleic acid which codes for the β chain of a human
T cell receptor, or for a functional derivative or
a fragment thereof and comprises a CDR3 region
which is selected from:

- (a) a nucleotide sequence coding for the amino acid
sequence

C A (X'₁ ... X'_n) Y/D E Q Y F (II)

in which X'₁ ... X'_n represents a sequence of
5-7 amino acids,

- (b) a nucleotide sequence coding for the amino acid
sequence

C A (X''₁ ... X''_n) N E Q F F (III)

in which X''₁ ... X''_n represents a sequence of
5-7 amino acids,

- (c) a nucleotide sequence coding for the amino acid sequence

C A (X''''₁ ... X''''_n) D T Q Y F (IV)

in which X''''₁ ... X''''_n represents a sequence of 5-7 amino acids,

- (d) a nucleotide sequence which codes for an amino acid sequence that is at least 80 % identical with an amino acid sequence from (a), (b) or/and (c), or
- (e) a nucleotide sequence which codes for an amino acid sequence with an equivalent recognition specificity for the peptide component of the T cell receptor ligand.

12. Nucleic acid as claimed in claim 11,
w h e r e i n

the amino acid sequence X'₁ ... X'_n is selected from the group comprising SSETNS, SSETSS, TSGTAS, RSGTGS, SSGTDS, SSGTRS, SSGSDS, SSSTGS, SSSTVS, SSSTLS, SSSTLF, SSSTAS, SSHTDS, SSDTLS and SRWDSE.

13. Nucleic acid as claimed in claim 12,
w h e r e i n

the amino acid sequence X''₁ ... X''_n represents SSETNS, SSGTDS, TSGTAS or RSGTGS.

14. Nucleic acid as claimed in claim 11,
w h e r e i n
the amino acid sequence $X''_1 \dots X''_n$ represents
SSGTSSY or SSDQGM or the amino acid sequence
 $X'''_1 \dots X'''_n$ represents SADSFK.
15. Vector,
w h e r e i n
it contains at least one copy of a nucleic acid as
claimed in one of the claims 10 to 14.
16. Cell,
w h e r e i n
it expresses a nucleic acid as claimed in one of
the claims 10 to 14.
17. Cell,
w h e r e i n
it is transformed with a nucleic acid as claimed in
one of the claims 10 to 14 or with a vector as
claimed in claim 15.
18. Polypeptide,
w h e r e i n
it codes for a nucleic acid as claimed in one of
the claims 10 to 14.
19. Polypeptide as claimed in claim 18,
w h e r e i n
it comprises the variable domain of the β chain of
a human T cell receptor.

20. Polypeptide,
w h e r e i n
it has T cell receptor properties and is composed
of a polypeptide as claimed in claim 8 or 9 as well
as a polypeptide as claimed in claim 18 or 19 as
subunits.
21. Polypeptide as claimed in one of the claims 8, 9,
18, 19 or 20,
w h e r e i n
it is coupled to a labelling group or a toxin.
22. Polypeptide as claimed in one of the claims 8, 9,
18, 19, 20 or 21,
w h e r e i n
it is present in an oligomerized form.
23. Antibody against a polypeptide as claimed in one of
the claims 8, 9, 18, 19, 20, 21 or 22 which is
directed against a region which is responsible for
recognizing the peptide ligand.
24. Antibody as claimed in claim 23,
w h e r e i n
it is directed towards a CDR3 region.
25. T cell,
w h e r e i n
it contains a T cell receptor as claimed in claim
20.

26. Pharmaceutical composition which contains as active component a nucleic acid as claimed in one of the claims 1 to 4 or 10 to 14, a polypeptide as claimed in one of the claims 8, 9 or 18 to 23, a peptide ligand against the polypeptide, an antibody as claimed in claim 23 or 24 or a cell as claimed in claim 6, 7, 16, 17 or 25 optionally together with other active components as well as common pharmaceutical auxiliary agents, additives or carrier substances.
27. Use of a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 26 for the production of an agent for the diagnosis of tumour diseases or a predisposition for a tumour disease.
28. Use of a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 26 for the production of an agent for monitoring the course of the disease in a tumour disease.
29. Use as claimed in claim 27 or 28,
w h e r e i n
the detection of T cells that express a polypeptide as claimed in claim 20 as the T cell receptor is carried out in a sample liquid by a nucleic acid hybridization assay, an immunoassay, a test for the binding of specific peptide ligands or a specific T cell activity test.
30. Use of a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 26 for the production of an agent for the prevention or therapy of a tumour disease.

31. Use as claimed in claim 30,
w h e r e i n
the agent is suitable for the stimulation of the
growth of T cells that express a polypeptide as
claimed in claim 20 as a T cell receptor.
32. Use as claimed in claim 31,
w h e r e i n
the agent is suitable for growth stimulation of the
T cells in vivo.
33. Use as claimed in claim 31 or 32,
w h e r e i n
the agent for growth stimulation comprises the
peptide ligand of the T cell receptor or/and the
entire molecule from which the peptide ligand is
derived or a fragment thereof.
34. Use as claimed in claim 31 or 32,
w h e r e i n
the growth stimulation includes an antibody that
specifically activates the T cell receptor.
35. Use as claimed in claim 31,
w h e r e i n
the growth stimulation is carried out by isolating
specific T cells, in vitro expansion and subsequent
administration of expanded T cells.
36. Use as claimed in one of the claims 27 to 35,
w h e r e i n
the tumour disease is a kidney cell carcinoma.

37. Process for the isolation of T cells that express a polypeptide as claimed in claim 20 as a T cell receptor,
w h e r e i n
a sample containing T cells is contacted with an agent that binds specifically to the CDR3 region of the T cell receptor, T cells that react with the agent are identified and optionally separated from other T cells.
38. Process as claimed in claim 37,
w h e r e i n
the agent is selected from the peptide ligand of T cells, a MHC peptide complex containing the peptide ligand or/and an anti-TCR antibody.
39. Process as claimed in claim 37 or 38 additionally comprising an in vitro expansion of T cells.
40. Process for the isolation of T cells which express a polypeptide as claimed in claim 20 as the T cell receptor,
w h e r e i n
nucleic acid sequences that code for the T cell receptor are introduced into a T cell line and are made to express therein.
41. Process for the isolation of T cells that express a polypeptide as claimed in claim 20 as the T cell receptor,
w h e r e i n
nucleic acid sequences which code for the T cell

receptor are introduced into the germ line of an animal and the T cells are isolated from the resulting transgenic animal or descendants thereof.

42. Transgenic animal,
w h e r e i n
it expresses a polypeptide as claimed in claim 20
as the T cell receptor.
43. Method for the identification of peptide ligands of
a T cell receptor as claimed in claim 20 comprising
the steps:
- (a) isolating RNA from tumour tissue,
 - (b) converting the RNA into double-stranded cDNA
molecules,
 - (c) introducing the cDNA molecules into host cells
to obtain a cDNA bank,
 - (d) transfecting eukaryotic recipient cells with
aliquots of the cDNA bank wherein (i)
cotransfection with HLA-A*0201 DNA is carried
out or (ii) HLA-A*0201 DNA positive recipient
cells are used,
 - (e) testing the transfected recipient cells for
their ability to secrete cytokines,
 - (f) identifying a cDNA sequence which codes for
the antigen which contains the peptide ligand
and

(g) identifying the sequence of the peptide ligand.

44. Method as claimed in claim 43,
w h e r e i n
step (e) comprises testing for the ability to lyse
TNF-sensitive cells.

Abstract

The present invention concerns new nucleic acid and amino acid sequences of the human T cell receptor and their use for the diagnosis and therapy of carcinomas in particular of kidney cell carcinomas.

Results #26 tumour i.s. CDR3 α -Region

Fragment	TCRAV20s1	N-Region	TCRAJ
<u>Clones</u> (14/54)	C L V G TGCCTCGTGGG	TG Va20 or Ja22 coded:	G S A R Q L T F GGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT TCRAJ22
<u>Clones</u> (1/54)	C L V G TGCCTCGTGGG	A	G S A R Q L T F GGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT TCRAJ22
<u>Clones</u> (11/54)	C L V TGCCTCGT	L CCT	S G S A R Q L T F TTCTGGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT TCRAJ22
<u>Clones</u> (5/54)	C L V TGCCTCGTG	L CT	S G S A R Q L T F TTCTGGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT TCRAJ22
<u>Clones</u> (2/54)	C L TGCCTCG	A CTA	T G S A R Q L T F CTGGTTCTTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT TCRAJ22
<u>Clones</u> (1/54)	C L TGCCTCG	V T	S G S A R Q L T F TTCTGGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT TCRAJ22
<u>Clones</u> (1/54)	C L V TGCCTCGTGG	V S TCTCC	G S A R Q L T F GGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT TCRAJ22
<u>Clones</u> (1/54)	C L TGCCTCG	D S ACTCC	G S A R Q L T F GGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT TCRAJ22
<u>Clones</u> (1/54)	C L TGCCTCG	D AC	S G S A R Q L T F TCTGGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT TCRAJ22
<u>Clones</u> (2/54)	C L TGCCTCG	A L A CCCTGGGG	G S A R Q L T F GGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT TCRAJ22

Fig. 1/2

Clones (1/54)

C L
TGCCTCG

A L A
CCCTGGCG

G S A R Q L T F
GGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT
TCRAJ22

Clones (1/54)

C L
TGCCTCG

A P
CGCCC

S G S A R Q L T F
TCTGGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT
TCRAJ22

Clones (2/54)

C L
TGCCT

TC

P S G S A R Q L T F
CTTCTGGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT
TCRAJ22

Results #26 tumour i.s. CDR3 β -Region

Fragment	TCRBV22S1	N-TCRBD-N	TCRBJ
Clones (8/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAG	E T N CGAACTAA TCRBD2	S Y E Q Y F CTCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clones (2/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAGT	E T N GAACTAAT TCRBD2	S Y E Q Y F TCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clone (1/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAGT	E T S GAACTTCT TCRBD2	S Y E Q Y F TCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clone (1/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAGT	E T S GAAACAAG TCRBD1	S Y E Q Y F CTCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clones (2/62)	C A TGTGCCA	T S G T A CCTCCGGGACAGCT TCRBD1	S Y E Q Y F TCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clones (2/62)	C A R TGTGCCAG	S G T G ATCCGGGACAGG TCRBD1	S Y E Q Y F CTCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clones (2/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAGT	G T D GGGACGGA TCRBD1/2	S Y E Q Y F CTCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clone (1/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAGT	G T D GGCACAGA TCRBD1	S Y E Q Y F CTCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clone (1/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAG	G T D CGGGACAGAT TCRBD1	S Y E Q Y F TCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7

Fig. 2/2

Clone (1/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAGT	G T R <u>GGGACTCGT</u> TCRBD2	S Y E Q Y F TCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clone (1/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAGT	G T R <u>GGGACACGT</u> TCRBD1	S Y E Q Y F TCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clones (2/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAGT	G T S S <u>GGAAGTAGCTCTT</u> TCRBD2	Y N E Q F F ACAATGAGCAGTCTT TCRBJ2S1 (TCRBJ2S7 sehr ähnlich)
<hr/>			
clone (1/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAGT	G S D <u>GGGTCCGA</u> TCRBD1/2	S Y E Q Y F CTCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
<hr/>			
Clones (5/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAGT	S T G <u>TCGACAGGG</u> TCRBD1	S Y E Q Y F TCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clones (2/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAG	S T V <u>CTCGACGGT</u> TCRBD1/2	S Y E Q Y F CTCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clone (1/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAGT	S T L <u>TCAACATTA</u> TCRBD2	S Y E Q Y F TCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clone (1/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAGT	S T L F <u>TCAACATTATT</u> TCRBD2	Y E Q Y F CTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clone (1/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAGT	S T A <u>TCGACAGC</u> TCRBD1	S Y E Q Y F CTCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clones (2/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAG	H T D <u>CCACACCGA</u> TCRBD1	S Y E Q Y F CTCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7
Clones (2/62)	C A S S TGTGCCAGCAGT	D T L <u>GACACCCT</u> TCRBD1	S Y E Q Y F CTCCTACGAGCAGTACTT TCRBJ2S7

Fig. 3

Results #22 tumour i.s. CDR3 α -RegionClones (13/34)Y C L V G
TACTGCCTCGTGGG

TG

G S A R Q L T F
GTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT

TCRAJ22

Val6 or JaC coded

Clones (2/34)Y C L V G
TACTGCCTCGTGGG

G

G S A R Q L T F
GGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT
TCRAJ22Clone (1/34)Y C L V G
TACTGCCTCGTGGG

TC

R S A R Q L T F
GTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT
TCRAJ22Clones (4/34)Y C L V
TACTGCCTCGTL
CCTS G S A R Q L T F
TTCTGGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT
TCRAJ22Clones (2/34)Y C L
TACTGCCTCGA
CTAT G S A R Q L T F
CTGGTTCTGCAAGGCAACTGACCTT
TCRAJ22

Fig. 4

Results #22 tumour i.s.

CDR3 β -Region

Clones (10/28)

C A S
TGTGCCAGA D S F K
TGCCGATTCTTTTAA
TCRBD2D T Q Y F
AGATACGCAGTATTT
TCRBJ2S3

Clones (4/28)

C A S S
TGTGCCAGCAGE T N
CGAAACTAA
TCRBD2S Y E Q Y F
CTCCTACGAGCAGTACTT
Jb2.7

Clones (1/28)

C A S S
TGTGCCAGCAGTD Q G M
GATCAGGGGATG
TCRBD2N E Q F F
AATGAGCAGTTCTT
TCRBJ2S1

Clones (1/28)

C A S R
TGTGCCAGCAGW D S E
GTGGGACTCCGAGG
TCRBD2D E Q Y F
ACGAGCAGTACTT
TCRBJ2S7

SEQUENCE PROTOCOL

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

(i) APPLICANT:

- (A) NAME: Boehringer Mannheim GmbH
(B) ROAD: Sandhofer Str. 112-132
(C) CITY: Mannheim
(E) COUNTRY: Germany
(F) POSTAL CODE: 68305

(ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: T cells specific for kidney carcinoma

(iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 22

(iv) COMPUTER-READABLE FORM:

- (A) DATA CARRIER: Floppy disk
(B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
(C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
(D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, version
1.30 (EPA)

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 1:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 1341 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleotide
(C) STRANDEDNESS: both
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
(B) POSITION: 1..801

(ix) FEATURE:

- ```
(A) NAME/KEY: sig_peptide
(B) POSITION: 1..54
```

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: mat\_peptide  
(B) POSITION: 55..801

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 1:

|                   |            |                 |                   |                  |                  |                 |            |                   |                  |                  |                  |            |                  |                  |                  |     |
|-------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----|
| ATG<br>Met<br>-18 | AGG<br>Arg | CAA<br>Gln      | GTG<br>Val<br>-15 | GCG<br>Ala       | AGA<br>Arg       | GTG<br>Val      | ATC<br>Ile | GTG<br>Val<br>-10 | TTC<br>Phe       | CTG<br>Leu       | ACC<br>Thr       | CTG<br>Leu | AGT<br>Ser<br>-5 | ACT<br>Thr       | TTG<br>Leu       | 48  |
| AGC<br>Ser        | CTT<br>Leu | GCT<br>Ala<br>1 | AAG<br>Lys        | ACC<br>Thr       | ACC<br>Thr       | CAG<br>Gln<br>5 | CCC<br>Pro | ATC<br>Ile        | TCC<br>Ser       | ATG<br>Met       | GAC<br>Asp<br>10 | TCA<br>Ser | TAT<br>Tyr       | GAA<br>Glu       | GGA<br>Gly       | 96  |
| CAA<br>Gln<br>15  | GAA<br>Glu | GTG<br>Val      | AAC<br>Asn        | ATA<br>Ile       | ACC<br>Thr<br>20 | TGT<br>Cys      | AGC<br>Ser | CAC<br>His        | AAC<br>Asn       | AAC<br>Asn<br>25 | ATT<br>Ile       | GCT<br>Ala | ACA<br>Thr       | AAT<br>Asn       | GAT<br>Asp<br>30 | 144 |
| TAT<br>Tyr        | ATC<br>Ile | ACG<br>Thr      | TGG<br>Trp        | TAC<br>Tyr<br>35 | CAA<br>Gln       | CAG<br>Gln      | TTT<br>Phe | CCC<br>Pro        | AGC<br>Ser<br>40 | CAA<br>Gln       | GGA<br>Gly       | CCA<br>Pro | CGA<br>Arg       | TTT<br>Phe<br>45 | ATT<br>Ile       | 192 |

|                                                                                                                                                       |      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| ATT GAA GGA TAC AAG ACA AAA GTT ACA AAC GAA GTG GCC TCC CTG TTT<br>Ile Gln Gly Tyr Lys Thr Lys Val Thr Asn Glu Val Ala Ser Leu Phe<br>50 55 60        | 240  |
| ATC CCT GCC GAC AGA AAG TCC AGC ACT CTG AGC CTG CCC CGG GTT TCC<br>Ile Pro Ala Asp Arg Lys Ser Ser Thr Leu Ser Leu Pro Arg Val Ser<br>65 70 75        | 288  |
| CTG AGC GAC ACT GCT GTG TAC TAC TGC CTC GTG GGT GGT TCT GCA AGG<br>Leu Ser Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys Leu Val Gly Gly Ser Ala Arg<br>80 85 90        | 336  |
| CAA CTG ACC TTT GGA TCT GGG ACA CAA TTG ACT GTT TTA CCT GAT ATC<br>Gln Leu Thr Phe Gly Ser Gly Thr Gln Leu Thr Val Leu Pro Asp Ile<br>95 100 105 110  | 384  |
| CAG AAC CCT GAC CCT GCC GTG TAC CAG CTG AGA GAC TCT AAA TCC AGT<br>Gln Asn Pro Asp Pro Ala Val Tyr Gln Leu Arg Asp Ser Lys Ser Ser<br>115 120 125     | 432  |
| GAC AAG TCT GTC TGC CTA TTC ACC GAT TTT GAT TCT CAA ACA AAT GTG<br>Asp Lys Ser Val Cys Leu Phe Thr Asp Phe Asp Ser Gln Thr Asn Val<br>130 135 140     | 480  |
| TCA CAA AGT AAG GAT TCT GAT GTG TAT ATC ACA GAC AAA ACT GTG CTA<br>Ser Gln Ser Lys Asp Ser Asp Val Tyr Ile Thr Asp Lys Thr Val Leu<br>145 150 155     | 528  |
| GAC ATG AGG TCT ATG GAC TTC AAG AGC AAC AGT GCT GTG GCC TGG AGC<br>Asp Met Arg Ser Met Asp Phe Lys Ser Asn Ser Ala Val Ala Trp Ser<br>160 165 170     | 576  |
| AAC AAA TCT GAC TTT GCA TGT GCA AAC GCC TTC AAC AAC AGC ATT ATT<br>Asn Lys Ser Asp Phe Ala Cys Ala Asn Ala Phe Asn Asn Ser Ile Ile<br>175 180 185 190 | 624  |
| CCA GAA GAC ACC TTC TTC CCC AGC CCA GAA AGT TCC TGT GAT GTC AAG<br>Pro Glu Asp Thr Phe Phe Pro Ser Pro Glu Ser Ser Cys Asp Val Lys<br>195 200 205     | 672  |
| CTG GTC GAG AAA AGC TTT GAA ACA GAT ACG AAC CTA AAC TTT CAA AAC<br>Leu Val Glu Lys Ser Phe Glu Thr Asp Thr Asn Leu Asn Phe Gln Asn<br>210 215 220     | 720  |
| CTG TCA GTG ATT GGG TTC CGA ATC CTC CTC CTG AAA GTG GCC GGG TTT<br>Leu Ser Val Ile Gly Phe Arg Ile Leu Leu Leu Lys Val Ala Gly Phe<br>225 230 235     | 768  |
| AAT CTG CTC ATG ACG CTG CGG CTG TGG TCC AGC TGAGATCTGC AAGATTGTAA<br>Asn Leu Leu Met Thr Leu Arg Leu Trp Ser Ser<br>240 245                           | 821  |
| GACAGCCTGT GCTCCCTCGC TCCTTCCTCT GCATTGCCCC TCTTCTCCCT CTCCAAACAG                                                                                     | 881  |
| AGGGAACCTCT CCTACCCCCA AGGAGGTGAA AGCTGCTACC ACCTCTGTGC CCCCCGGCA                                                                                     | 941  |
| ATGCCACCAA CTGGATCCTA CCCGAATTTA TGATTAAGAT TGCTGAAGAG CTGCCAAACA                                                                                     | 1001 |
| CTGCTGCCAC CCCCTCTGTT CCCTTATTGC TGCTTGTCAC TGCCTGACAT TCACGGCAGA                                                                                     | 1061 |
| GGCAAGGCTG CTGCAGCCTC CCCTGGCTGT GCACATTCCC TCCTGCTCCC CAGAGACTGC                                                                                     | 1121 |
| CTCCGCCATC CCACAGATGA TGGATCTTCA GTGGGTTCTC TTGGGCTCTA GGTCTGGAG                                                                                      | 1181 |



|                                                                     |      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| AAATGTTGTGA GGGGTTTATT TTTTTTTAAT AGTGTTTCATA AAGAAATACA TAGTATTCTT | 1241 |
| CTTCTCAAGA CGTGGGGGGA AATTATCTCA TTATCGAGGC CCTGCTATGC TGTGTGTCTG   | 1301 |
| GGCGTGTGTG ATGTCCTGCT GCCGATGCCT TCATTAAAT                          | 1341 |

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 2:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 267 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) TYPE OF MOLECULE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 2:

|     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Met | Arg | Gln | Val | Ala | Arg | Val | Ile | Val | Phe | Leu | Thr | Leu | Ser | Thr | Leu | -18 | -15 | -10 | -5  |
| Ser | Leu | Ala | Lys | Thr | Thr | Gln | Pro | Ile | Ser | Met | Asp | Ser | Tyr | Glu | Gly | 1   | 5   | 10  |     |
| Gln | Glu | Val | Asn | Ile | Thr | Cys | Ser | His | Asn | Asn | Ile | Ala | Thr | Asn | Asp | 15  | 20  | 25  | 30  |
| Tyr | Ile | Thr | Trp | Tyr | Gln | Gln | Phe | Pro | Ser | Gln | Gly | Pro | Arg | Phe | Ile | 35  | 40  | 45  |     |
| Ile | Gln | Gly | Tyr | Lys | Thr | Lys | Val | Thr | Asn | Glu | Val | Ala | Ser | Leu | Phe | 50  | 55  | 60  |     |
| Ile | Pro | Ala | Asp | Arg | Lys | Ser | Ser | Thr | Leu | Ser | Leu | Pro | Arg | Val | Ser | 65  | 70  | 75  |     |
| Leu | Ser | Asp | Thr | Ala | Val | Tyr | Tyr | Cys | Leu | Val | Gly | Gly | Ser | Ala | Arg | 80  | 85  | 90  |     |
| Gln | Leu | Thr | Phe | Gly | Ser | Gly | Thr | Gln | Leu | Thr | Val | Leu | Pro | Asp | Ile | 95  | 100 | 105 | 110 |
| Gln | Asn | Pro | Asp | Pro | Ala | Val | Tyr | Gln | Leu | Arg | Asp | Ser | Lys | Ser | Ser | 115 | 120 | 125 |     |
| Asp | Lys | Ser | Val | Cys | Leu | Phe | Thr | Asp | Phe | Asp | Ser | Gln | Thr | Asn | Val | 130 | 135 | 140 |     |
| Ser | Gln | Ser | Lys | Asp | Ser | Asp | Val | Tyr | Ile | Thr | Asp | Lys | Thr | Val | Leu | 145 | 150 | 155 |     |
| Asp | Met | Arg | Ser | Met | Asp | Phe | Lys | Ser | Asn | Ser | Ala | Val | Ala | Trp | Ser | 160 | 165 | 170 |     |
| Asn | Lys | Ser | Asp | Phe | Ala | Cys | Ala | Asn | Ala | Phe | Asn | Asn | Ser | Ile | Ile | 175 | 180 | 185 | 190 |
| Pro | Glu | Asp | Thr | Phe | Phe | Pro | Ser | Pro | Glu | Ser | Ser | Cys | Asp | Val | Lys | 195 | 200 | 205 |     |
| Leu | Val | Glu | Lys | Ser | Phe | Glu | Thr | Asp | Thr | Asn | Leu | Asn | Phe | Gln | Asn | 210 | 215 | 220 |     |
| Leu | Ser | Val | Ile | Gly | Phe | Arg | Ile | Leu | Leu | Leu | Lys | Val | Ala | Gly | Phe | 225 | 230 | 235 |     |

Asn Leu Leu Met Thr Leu Arg Leu Trp Ser Ser  
 240 245

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 3:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 936 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleotide
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: both
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
- (B) POSITION: 1..933

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: sig\_peptide
- (B) POSITION: 1..63

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: mat\_peptide
- (B) POSITION: 64..933

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 3:

|                                                                 |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| ATG GAT ACC TGG CTC GTA TGC TGG GCA ATT TTT AGT CTC TTG AAA GCA | 48  |
| Met Asp Thr Trp Leu Val Cys Trp Ala Ile Phe Ser Leu Leu Lys Ala |     |
| -21 -20 -15 -10                                                 |     |
| GGA CTC ACA GAA CCT GAA GTC ACC CAG ACT CCC AGC CAT CAG GTC ACA | 96  |
| Gly Leu Thr Glu Pro Glu Val Thr Gln Thr Pro Ser His Gln Val Thr |     |
| -5 1 5 10                                                       |     |
| CAG ATG GGA CAG GAA GTG ATC TTG CGC TGT GTC CCC ATC TCT AAT CAC | 144 |
| Gln Met Gly Gln Glu Val Ile Leu Arg Cys Val Pro Ile Ser Asn His |     |
| 15 20 25                                                        |     |
| TTA TAC TTC TAT TGG TAC AGA CAA ATC TTG GGG CAG AAA GTC GAG TTT | 192 |
| Leu Tyr Phe Tyr Trp Tyr Arg Gln Ile Leu Gly Gln Lys Val Glu Phe |     |
| 30 35 40                                                        |     |
| CTG GTT TCC TTT TAT AAT AAT GAA ATC TCA GAG AAG TCT GAA ATA TTC | 240 |
| Leu Val Ser Phe Tyr Asn Asn Glu Ile Ser Glu Lys Ser Glu Ile Phe |     |
| 45 50 55                                                        |     |
| GAT GAT CAA TTC TCA GTT GAA AGG CCT GAT GGA TCA AAT TTC ACT CTG | 288 |
| Asp Asp Gln Phe Ser Val Glu Arg Pro Asp Gly Ser Asn Phe Thr Leu |     |
| 60 65 70 75                                                     |     |
| AAG ATC CGG TCC ACA AAG CTG GAG GAC TCA GCC ATG TAC TTC TGT GCC | 336 |
| Lys Ile Arg Ser Thr Lys Leu Glu Asp Ser Ala Met Tyr Phe Cys Ala |     |
| 80 85 90                                                        |     |
| AGC AGC GAA ACT AAC TCC TAC GAG CAG TAC TTC GGG CCG GGC ACC AGG | 384 |
| Ser Ser Glu Thr Asn Ser Tyr Glu Gln Tyr Phe Gly Pro Gly Thr Arg |     |
| 95 100 105                                                      |     |
| CTC ACG GTC ACA GAG GAC CTG AAA AAC GTG TTC CCA CCC GAG GTC GCT | 432 |
| Leu Thr Val Thr Glu Asp Leu Lys Asn Val Phe Pro Pro Glu Val Ala |     |
| 110 115 120                                                     |     |

|                                                                 |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| GTG TTT GAG CCA TCA GAA GCA GAG ATC TCC CAC ACC CAA AAG GCC ACA | 480 |
| Val Phe Glu Pro Ser Glu Ala Glu Ile Ser His Thr Gln Lys Ala Thr |     |
| 125 130 135                                                     |     |
| CTG GTG TGC CTG GCC ACA GGC TTC TAC CCC GAC CAC GTG GAG CTG AGC | 528 |
| Leu Val Cys Leu Ala Thr Gly Phe Tyr Pro Asp His Val Glu Leu Ser |     |
| 140 145 150 155                                                 |     |
| TGG TGG GTG AAT GGG AAG GAG GTG CAC AGT GGG GTC AGC ACA GAC CCG | 576 |
| Trp Trp Val Asn Gly Lys Glu Val His Ser Gly Val Ser Thr Asp Pro |     |
| 160 165 170                                                     |     |
| CAG CCC CTC AAG GAG CAG CCC GCC CTC AAT GAC TCC AGA TAC TGC CTG | 624 |
| Gln Pro Leu Lys Glu Gln Pro Ala Leu Asn Asp Ser Arg Tyr Cys Leu |     |
| 175 180 185                                                     |     |
| AGC AGC CGC CTG AGG GTC TCG GCC ACC TTC TGG CAG AAC CCC CGC AAC | 672 |
| Ser Ser Arg Leu Arg Val Ser Ala Thr Phe Trp Gln Asn Pro Arg Asn |     |
| 190 195 200                                                     |     |
| CAC TTC CGC TGT CAA GTC CAG TTC TAC GGG CTC TCG GAG AAT GAC GAG | 720 |
| His Phe Arg Cys Gln Val Gln Phe Tyr Gly Leu Ser Glu Asn Asp Glu |     |
| 205 210 215                                                     |     |
| TGG ACC CAG GAT AGG GCC AAA CCT GTC ACC CAG ATC GTC AGC GCC GAG | 768 |
| Trp Thr Gln Asp Arg Ala Lys Pro Val Thr Gln Ile Val Ser Ala Glu |     |
| 220 225 230 235                                                 |     |
| GCC TGG GGT AGA GCA GAC TGT GGC TTC ACC TCC GAG TCT TAC CAG CAA | 816 |
| Ala Trp Gly Arg Ala Asp Cys Gly Phe Thr Ser Glu Ser Tyr Gln Gln |     |
| 240 245 250                                                     |     |
| GGG GTC CTG TCT GCC ACC ATC CTC TAT GAG ATC TTG CTA GGG AAG GCC | 864 |
| Gly Val Leu Ser Ala Thr Ile Leu Tyr Glu Ile Leu Leu Gly Lys Ala |     |
| 255 260 265                                                     |     |
| ACC TTG TAT GCC GTG CTG GTC AGT GCC CTC GTG CTG ATG GCC ATG GTC | 912 |
| Thr Leu Tyr Ala Val Leu Val Ser Ala Leu Val Leu Met Ala Met Val |     |
| 270 275 280                                                     |     |
| AAG AGA AAG GAT TCC AGA GGC TAG                                 | 936 |
| Lys Arg Lys Asp Ser Arg Gly                                     |     |
| 285 290                                                         |     |

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 4:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 311 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) TYPE OF MOLECULE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 4:

|                                                                 |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Met Asp Thr Trp Leu Val Cys Trp Ala Ile Phe Ser Leu Leu Lys Ala |  |
| -21 -20 -15 -10                                                 |  |
| Gly Leu Thr Glu Pro Glu Val Thr Gln Thr Pro Ser His Gln Val Thr |  |
| -5 1 5 10                                                       |  |
| Gln Met Gly Gln Glu Val Ile Leu Arg Cys Val Pro Ile Ser Asn His |  |
| 15 20 25                                                        |  |

Leu Tyr Phe Tyr Trp Tyr Arg Gln Ile Leu Gly Gln Lys Val Glu Phe  
           30                                  35                                  40  
 Leu Val Ser Phe Tyr Asn Asn Glu Ile Ser Glu Lys Ser Glu Ile Phe  
           45                                  50                                  55  
 Asp Asp Gln Phe Ser Val Glu Arg Pro Asp Gly Ser Asn Phe Thr Leu  
           60                                  65                                  70                                  75  
 Lys Ile Arg Ser Thr Lys Leu Glu Asp Ser Ala Met Tyr Phe Cys Ala  
                                   80                                  85                                  90  
 Ser Ser Glu Thr Asn Ser Tyr Glu Gln Tyr Phe Gly Pro Gly Thr Arg  
                                   95                                  100                                  105  
 Leu Thr Val Thr Glu Asp Leu Lys Asn Val Phe Pro Pro Glu Val Ala  
           110                                  115                                  120  
 Val Phe Glu Pro Ser Glu Ala Glu Ile Ser His Thr Gln Lys Ala Thr  
           125                                  130                                  135  
 Leu Val Cys Leu Ala Thr Gly Phe Tyr Pro Asp His Val Glu Leu Ser  
           140                                  145                                  150                                  155  
 Trp Trp Val Asn Gly Lys Glu Val His Ser Gly Val Ser Thr Asp Pro  
                                   160                                  165                                  170  
 Gln Pro Leu Lys Glu Gln Pro Ala Leu Asn Asp Ser Arg Tyr Cys Leu  
                                   175                                  180                                  185  
 Ser Ser Arg Leu Arg Val Ser Ala Thr Phe Trp Gln Asn Pro Arg Asn  
           190                                  195                                  200  
 His Phe Arg Cys Gln Val Gln Phe Tyr Gly Leu Ser Glu Asn Asp Glu  
           205                                  210                                  215  
 Trp Thr Gln Asp Arg Ala Lys Pro Val Thr Gln Ile Val Ser Ala Glu  
           220                                  225                                  230                                  235  
 Ala Trp Gly Arg Ala Asp Cys Gly Phe Thr Ser Glu Ser Tyr Gln Gln  
                                   240                                  245                                  250  
 Gly Val Leu Ser Ala Thr Ile Leu Tyr Glu Ile Leu Leu Gly Lys Ala  
           255                                  260                                  265  
 Thr Leu Tyr Ala Val Leu Val Ser Ala Leu Val Leu Met Ala Met Val  
           270                                  275                                  280  
 Lys Arg Lys Asp Ser Arg Gly  
           285                                  290

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 5:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 39 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleotide
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: both
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: CDS

(B) POSITION: 1..39

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 5:

TGC CTC GTC CTT TCT GGT TCT GCA AGG CAA CTG ACC TTT  
Cys Leu Val Leu Ser Gly Ser Ala Arg Gln Leu Thr Phe  
295 300

39

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 6:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 13 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) TYPE OF MOLECULE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 6:

Cys Leu Val Leu Ser Gly Ser Ala Arg Gln Leu Thr Phe  
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 7:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 36 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleotide
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: both
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
- (B) POSITION: 1..36

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 7:

TGC CTC GCT ACT GGT TCT GCA AGG CAA CTG ACC TTT  
Cys Leu Ala Thr Gly Ser Ala Arg Gln Leu Thr Phe  
15 20 25

36

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 12 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) TYPE OF MOLECULE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 8:

Cys Leu Ala Thr Gly Ser Ala Arg Gln Leu Thr Phe  
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 9:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 39 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleotide
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: both

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY: CDS

(B) POSITION: 1..39

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 9:

TGT GCC AGC AGT GGA ACA GAT TCC TAC GAG CAG TAC TTC  
Cys Ala Ser Ser Gly Thr Asp Ser Tyr Glu Gln Tyr Phe  
15 20 25

39

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 10:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 13 amino acids

(B) TYPE: amino acid

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) TYPE OF MOLECULE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 10:

Cys Ala Ser Ser Gly Thr Asp Ser Tyr Glu Gln Tyr Phe  
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 11:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 39 base pairs

(B) TYPE: nucleotide

(C) STRANDEDNESS: both

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY: CDS

(B) POSITION: 1..39

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 11:

TGT GCC AGC AGT GAA ACA GAT TCC TAC GAG CAG TAC TTC  
Cys Ala Ser Ser Glu Thr Asp Ser Tyr Glu Gln Tyr Phe  
15 20 25

39

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 12:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 13 amino acids

(B) TYPE: amino acid

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) TYPE OF MOLECULE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 12:

Cys Ala Ser Ser Glu Thr Asp Ser Tyr Glu Gln Tyr Phe  
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 13:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
    (A) LENGTH: 39 base pairs  
    (B) TYPE: nucleotide  
    (C) STRANDEDNESS: both  
    (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: CDS  
    (B) POSITION: 1..39

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 13:

TGT GCC AGC AGT GGA ACA GCT TCC TAC GAG CAG TAC TTC  
Cys Ala Ser Ser Gly Thr Ala Ser Tyr Glu Gln Tyr Phe  
    15                    20                    25

39

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 14:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
    (A) LENGTH: 13 amino acids  
    (B) TYPE: amino acid  
    (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) TYPE OF MOLECULE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 14:

Cys Ala Ser Ser Gly Thr Ala Ser Tyr Glu Gln Tyr Phe  
    1                    5                    10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 15:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
    (A) LENGTH: 39 base pairs  
    (B) TYPE: nucleotide  
    (C) STRANDEDNESS: both  
    (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: CDS  
    (B) POSITION: 1..39

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 15:

TGT GCC AGC AGT GGT ACA AAC TCC TAC GAG CAG TAC TTT  
Cys Ala Ser Ser Gly Thr Asn Ser Tyr Glu Gln Tyr Phe  
    15                    20                    25

39

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 16:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
    (A) LENGTH: 13 amino acids  
    (B) TYPE: amino acid  
    (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

- (ii) TYPE OF MOLECULE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 16:

Cys Ala Ser Ser Gly Thr Asn Ser Tyr Glu Gln Tyr Phe  
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 17:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
  - (A) LENGTH: 39 base pairs
  - (B) TYPE: nucleotide
  - (C) STRANDEDNESS: both
  - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

- (ix) FEATURE:
  - (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
  - (B) POSITION: 1..39

- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 17:

TGT GCC ACC TCC GGG ACA GCT TCC TAC GAG CAG TAC TTC  
 Cys Ala Thr Ser Gly Thr Ala Ser Tyr Glu Gln Tyr Phe  
 15 20 25

39

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 18:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
  - (A) LENGTH: 13 amino acids
  - (B) TYPE: amino acid
  - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

- (ii) TYPE OF MOLECULE: protein
- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 18:

Cys Ala Thr Ser Gly Thr Ala Ser Tyr Glu Gln Tyr Phe  
 1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 19:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
  - (A) LENGTH: 39 base pairs
  - (B) TYPE: nucleotide
  - (C) STRANDEDNESS: both
  - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

- (ix) FEATURE:
  - (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
  - (B) POSITION: 1..39

- (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 19:

TGT GCC AGA TCC GGG ACA GGC TCC TAC GAG CAG TAC TTC  
 Cys Ala Arg Ser Gly Thr Gly Ser Tyr Glu Gln Tyr Phe  
 15 20 25

39



(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 20:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 13 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) TYPE OF MOLECULE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 20:..

Cys Ala Arg Ser Gly Thr Gly Ser Tyr Glu Gln Tyr Phe  
1                    5                    10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 21:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 20 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleotide
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single strand
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 21:

CACTGAAGAT CCATCATCTG

20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 22:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 20 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleotide
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single strand
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 22:

TAGAGGATGG TGGCAGACAG

20